

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A fastening system comprising:
 - a) an object including a securement structure for mounting at a fastening location with a fastener, the securement structure including an extension element adapted to be compressed by a fastener; and
 - 5 b) a compression reinforcement device mounted with respect to the securement structure and including a lower creep rate than a creep rate of the securement structure, the compression reinforcement device further including a first end and an opposed second end, a portion of the securement structure extends above the first end of the compression reinforcement device, and wherein the extension element is adapted to be compressed by a fastener such that the portion of the securement structure is positioned substantially level with the first end and wherein the compression reinforcement device and the securement structure both receive compressive force from a fastener.
- 10 2. The fastening system of claim 1, wherein the portion of the securement structure includes a distal end of the extension element.
3. The fastening system of claim 1, wherein the object is included as an element for a vehicle.
4. The fastening system of claim 3, wherein the element comprises a vehicle bed element.
5. The fastening system of claim 4, wherein the vehicle bed element comprises a vehicle bed floor.
6. The fastening system of claim 3, wherein the object is an integral part of the element.
7. The fastening system of claim 1, wherein the compression reinforcement device comprises an annular collar including the first and second end, and wherein the annular collar is mounted within an aperture defined by the securement structure.

8. The fastening system of claim 7, wherein the annular collar includes a substantially constant outer diameter between the first end and the second end of the annular collar.

9. The fastening system of claim 7, wherein the annular collar includes a body portion that is concentric with the aperture and a foot that extends radially away from the body portion.

10. The fastening system of claim 9, wherein the foot is located at the second end of the annular collar.

11. The fastening system of claim 10, wherein the portion of the securement structure includes a distal end of the extension element.

12. The fastening system of claim 10, wherein the extension element is adapted to abut a surface of the foot.

13. The fastening system of claim 7, wherein the extension element comprises one or more annular extension elements disposed concentrically with respect to the annular collar.

14. The fastening system of claim 7, wherein the extension element comprises a plurality of extension elements disposed radially about the annular collar.

15. The fastening system of claim 1, further comprising a bearing member adapted to compress the securement structure until the portion of the securement structure is positioned substantially level with the first end of the compression reinforcement device.

16. A vehicle bed element for mounting at a fastening location of a vehicle with a fastener, the vehicle bed element comprising:

a) a securement structure including an aperture and an extension element adapted to be compressed by a fastener; and

5 b) an annular collar including a lower creep rate than a creep rate of the securement structure, the annular collar including a first and second end, a body portion, and a foot located at the second end and extending radially away

from the body portion, wherein the annular collar is mounted within the aperture such that the body portion is concentric with the aperture, a surface of the securement structure abuts against a surface of the foot, and the extension element includes a distal end that extends above the first end of the annular collar, wherein the extension element is adapted to be compressed by a fastener such that the distal end of the extension element is positioned substantially level with the first end of the annular collar while the annular collar and the securement structure both receive a compressive force.

17. The vehicle bed element of claim 16, wherein the extension element comprises one or more annular extension elements disposed concentrically with respect to the annular collar.

18. The vehicle bed element of claim 16, wherein the extension element comprises a plurality of extension elements disposed radially about the annular collar.

19. The vehicle bed element of claim 16, further comprising a bearing member adapted to compress the extension element until the distal end of the extension element is positioned substantially level with the first end of the annular collar.